

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1. (cancelled)
2. (cancelled)
3. (currently amended) [[The]] A device in accordance with claim 1 to prevent superheating of a liquid within a microwave oven, said device comprising:

a transducer positionable on a surface within the microwave oven wherein the surface supports a container for the liquid, said transducer responsive to a source of energy such that said transducer vibrates the surface thereby nucleating and allowing the liquid to boil such that the liquid is prevented from superheating; and

wherein said transducer is capable of being energized by a pulsed impulse with sufficient amplitude to boil the liquid.

4. (currently amended) ~~[[The]]~~ A device in accordance with claim 1 to prevent superheating of a liquid within a microwave oven, said device comprising:

a transducer positionable on a surface within the microwave oven wherein the surface supports a container for the liquid, said transducer responsive to a source of energy such that said transducer vibrates the surface thereby nucleating and allowing the liquid to boil such that the liquid is prevented from superheating; and

wherein said transducer operates at ultrasonic frequencies.

5. (currently amended) The device in accordance with claim ~~[[1]]~~3 wherein said transducer is capable of being embedded within the surface of the microwave oven.

6. (original) The device in accordance with claim 5 wherein said transducer is capable of being energized by a source of energy powering the microwave oven.

7. (cancelled)

8. (cancelled)

9. (cancelled)

10. (cancelled)

11. (currently amended) [[The]] A microwave oven in
accordance with claim 9 comprising:

a support surface adapted to support a container within
said microwave oven;

a transducer disposed on said support surface, said
transducer responsive to a source of energy to
vibrate said support surface such that any liquid
within the container nucleates thereby allowing
boiling to prevent the liquid from becoming
superheated; and

wherein the operation of said transducer is responsive to
the operation of a timer.

12. (currently amended) The microwave oven in accordance with
claim [[9]] 11 wherein said transducer is embedded within said
support surface.

13. (cancelled)

14. (cancelled)

15. (cancelled)

16. (cancelled)

17. (cancelled)

18. (cancelled)

19. (cancelled)